

## Challenger Institute of Technology

*Diploma of Nursing students  
Front L-R: Marwa Abdalla (Applecross)  
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Back L-R: Wynonna Wells (Rockingham)  
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## Challenger first to roll out broadband nursing training

In a national first, Challenger Institute of Technology has launched remote real-time nursing training via the National Broadband Network.

High resolution digital cameras are being used to stream training sessions at Challenger's state-of-the-art nursing facility at Murdoch to its Mandurah campus and throughout the Peel region.

Challenger Institute hospitality and human services director Kerry Donovan said the unique live training project allowed Peel students, who were based 70km away from Murdoch, to experience learning inside Challenger's nursing ward.

"Cameras capture skill demonstrations at our Murdoch campus and web-conferencing technology streams these sessions live to students at our Peel campus and at learning centres in Boddington, Waroona and Mundijong," she said.

"These demonstrations include training using three high-tech clinical patient simulators at the Murdoch campus that might otherwise not be available to the Peel students.

"The use of this technology not only offers students in Peel the opportunity to experience our nursing ward and its sophisticated equipment, it also facilitates two-way communication so that the students are able to interact with Murdoch trainers, ask questions and contribute to

discussions."

Ms Donovan said the initiative was part of Challenger's commitment to offering flexible training delivery in the Peel region, where there was a growing demand for courses in the skills shortage areas of nursing, community services, aged care, education and hospitality.

"Challenger has a focus on keeping people learning and working in the Peel region and the NBN has huge potential benefits for both our students and the local community," she said.

"We are the only training organisation in Western Australia with both metropolitan and regional training delivery, which makes e-learning technology very valuable for us.

"While this project was piloted with nursing and aged care students, this model of streaming live learning will be applicable to other campuses and courses across the Institute."

Peel campus nursing and aged care course coordinator Jenni Hull said the e-learning technology had been

embraced by students.

"The students involved are very satisfied with being able to engage live with the base trainer at the time of the broadcast," she said.

"The advantages of using this technology in the future to improve training opportunities for aged care qualifications and nursing courses are many.

The technology introduces students to highly sophisticated training material which they don't have access to at their home campus. And the ability to capture lessons on video for future reference is also very useful."

Challenger's Limitless eLearning: Beyond the classroom project was supported with funding from the National VET E-Learning Strategy. National NBN program manager Fiona Huskinson said the strategy's NBN E-learning Programs provided opportunities to demonstrate the power of broadband to enhance outcomes for learners, and to promote growth in broadband-based training as the NBN rollout proceeded.

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